

# Associate of Arts General Studies - Online Version - NewPrg-2016-08-15

- The workflow icon is no longer available. Please click on the Page Status after the orange circle icon near the page title. \*

## Form Information

 The page you originally access is the global template version. To access the template document that progresses through the workflow, please complete the following steps:

**First Step:** **ONLY** change the text in the [brackets] so it looks like this: **Bachelors Degree Criminology-NewPrg-2015-08-10**

- ***If DUAL LISTED list BOTH courses in the page title***

**Second Step:** Click “SAVE” on bottom right

- ***DO NOT TYPE ANYTHING INTO THE FIRST PAGE OTHER THAN THE TEXT IN BRACKETS***
- ***Please be sure to remove the Brackets while renaming the page***

**Third Step:** Make sure the word ***DRAFT*** is in yellow at the top of the proposal

**Fourth Step:** Click on “**EDIT CONTENTS**.” (not EDIT) and start completing the template. When exiting or when done, click “**SAVE**” on bottom right

When ready to submit click on the workflow icon and hit approve. It will then move to the chair as the next step in the workflow.

*\*Indicates a required field*

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<b>Proposing Department/Unit*</b>	DVST	<b>Contact Phone*</b>	7-2729

<b>Course Level:*</b>	undergraduate-level
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**Rationale for Program Creation**

**(A) Why is the program being proposed?\***

State System Chancellor Brogan recently said, *"Think about this: there are more than 1 million Pennsylvanians who started a degree but never finished. We must reach out to those individuals to let them know they have options at a State System university, and ensure we are organized in a way to meet their needs."*

IUP's enrollment has been declining for several years, primarily due to declines in traditional undergraduate enrollment. The population of adult learners, however, has increased in Pennsylvania over the same time frame, and there are now more adult learners in the state than 18 to 23 year-olds. These adult learners typically have jobs and cannot enroll in a full-time or face-to-face degree programs ([http://www.rural.palegislature.us/documents/reports/fafsa\\_report\\_print.pdf](http://www.rural.palegislature.us/documents/reports/fafsa_report_print.pdf)).

As a result, IUP is faced with three trends: declining undergraduate enrollment, an increasing population of adult learners, and more than 1,000,000 individuals who have started but not completed a degree. The best prospect IUP has in maintaining or growing enrollment is with the adult learner population. Other institutions, including CalU (PASSHE), have developed and implemented online adult degree completion programs (<http://www.calu.edu/news/press-releases/2015/11/finish-line-degree-completion.htm>).

To address these issues/trends, IUP plans to utilize the current General Studies degree program as a vehicle for increasing enrollment at IUP, engaging adult learners, and helping Pennsylvania's citizens complete a degree. Our plans are in two phases.

- Phase One is to transform the current associate's degree program in General Studies into one with a 100% online option for degree completion, and
- Phase Two is to transform the bachelor's degree program in General Studies into one with a 100% online option for degree completion.

In the Chancellor's words, the programs will need to be *"...organized in a way to meet their needs"* by having the programs be both flexible and 100% online so that adult learners with place-bound jobs can enroll in them. Adult learners will be able to accomplish this by choosing from the many courses at IUP already approved for online delivery.

We are emphasizing the flexibility that exists in General Studies programs because adult learners enrolling to complete their degree may have completed coursework in any major. These adult learners may need a degree to advance, but may not be interested in completing their original degree because it is not as relevant to their current job, or the person may simply need a degree, not one in a specific area.

Both degrees need to be offered online because a face-to-face only program will hamper future enrollments and cripple these programs. The goal over time is to consistently have at least 100 students enrolled in each of the two degree completion programs, generating approximately \$10,000,000 in annual gross revenue for IUP. Not many students will enroll if they have to drive to IUP to take face-to-face or hybrid courses.

Transforming these General Studies programs is in keeping with the Chancellor's observation, and it benefits IUP by increasing enrollment and revenue, and generating more degree-holding alumni.

<p><b>(B) Identify the Program Student Learning Outcomes</b></p> <p><b>(SLO). Mark any SLOs that are changing as a part of the Program Revision.*</b></p>	<p>The Online Associate of Arts degree program in General Studies is designed to provide the student with a broad base of knowledge in the liberal studies, while simultaneously permitting them to complete a concentration in a particular content area or field of study at IUP. This concentration may include the requirements of an already existing and approved minor program or a set of pre-approved courses to satisfy the 18 credit concentration requirement. As such, the Online Associate of Arts degree program is strengthening its commitment to developing informed, empowered, and responsible learners (expected student learning outcomes), and these expected student learning outcomes are linked directly to the General Studies degree program student learning outcomes, as outlined below. This Online Associate of Arts degree program accomplishes this goal by maintaining the focus on a broad liberal studies education (40 credits still required), while providing the opportunity for the student to emphasize a concentration and customize the degree to target necessary skills for future employment. Thus, these students will be able to develop depth of knowledge in a desired content area, when previously they were unable to do so. Rather, they had only 11 credits of electives in addition to the liberal studies requirements, which did not permit a focused degree that would allow the student to be increasingly marketable in a diverse occupational market.</p> <p>Students earning the Online Associate of Arts in General Studies will achieve the following learning outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Communication</i> - Students will communicate effectively using oral, written, and visual means and/or presentations. (Empowered Learner)</li> <li>2. <i>Critical Thinking</i> - Students will identify, categorize, and analyze problems and issues, as well as draw appropriate conclusions. (Empowered Learner)</li> <li>3. <i>Quantitative Fluency</i> - Students will perform calculations using symbolic operations and provide accurate interpretations and explanations of data. (Informed Learner; Empowered Learner)</li> <li>4. <i>Information Literacy</i> - Students will correctly identify, categorize, evaluate, and cite multiple resources to create projects, papers, or performances. (Empowered Learner)</li> <li>5. <i>Broad Integrative Knowledge</i> - Students will explore, connect, and apply concepts and methods across multiple fields of study. (Informed Learner)</li> <li>6. <i>Applied Learning</i> - Students will describe and analyze relationships between academic learning and problems outside the classroom. (Informed Learner; Empowered Learner)</li> <li>7. <i>Diversity</i> - Students will recognize and appreciate diversity, historical viewpoints, and the global perspective. (Informed Learner; Empowered Learner)</li> <li>8. <i>Ethical Reasoning</i> - Students will cultivate ethical values and analyze ethical principles or frameworks in judgment and decision-making. (Empowered Learner; Responsible Learner)</li> <li>9. <i>Lifelong Learning</i> - Students will examine connections between academic learning and professional goals and demonstrate attitudes such as curiosity, self-awareness, adaptability, and motivation. (Informed Learner; Responsible Learner)</li> </ol>
<p><b>(C) Implications of the change on the program, other programs and the Students:*</b></p>	<p>The change in this program will have limited to no impact on other programs at IUP aside from increasing enrollment in many liberal studies course requirements and minor course requirements. This change will have a significant impact on the prospective students who would like to complete their degree by making that option more accessible to them via an online program. Students will be able to accomplish this by choosing from the many courses at IUP already approved for online delivery.</p>

Proposed Program Information	
<p><b>(D) Proposed Program Title*</b></p>	<p>Online Associate of Arts General Studies</p>

<p><b>(E) Proposed Narrative</b></p> <p><b>Catalog Description*</b></p> <p><i>If copying pasting from a current catalog entry, please paste into Word or Notepad first to eliminate potential issues with formatting or special characters in the text.</i></p>	<p>The Online Associate of Arts Degree Program in General Studies is designed to provide the student with a broad base of knowledge in liberal studies with a focused concentration in a field of study at IUP. This concentration may include the already approved courses of an established minor program or a set of pre-approved courses to satisfy this 18 credit concentration requirement. No more than 30 credits may be transferred into this degree program from other colleges or universities.</p> <p>Students who may find this degree appropriate are those whose career goals only require an Associate of Arts degree, who are distance education students, who need a degree credential en route to a Bachelor's degree, or who are unable to complete a Bachelor's degree, but seek a degree that can accurately reflect their accomplishments in college.</p>
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<p><b>(F) Proposed Program Requirements*</b></p>	<p><b>Associate of Arts–General Studies</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Liberal Studies:</b> As outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog with the following specifications/exceptions:</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">39-40</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Fine Arts</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">3cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Dimensions of Wellness/ROTC</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">3cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Humanities</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">9cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Learning Skills:</b> ENGL 101 or higher, MATH 101 or higher</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">6cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Natural Science</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">7-8cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Social Science:</b> Including 3cr Global Multicultural Awareness</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">6cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Liberal Studies Electives</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">6cr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Concentration:</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">18</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">Completion of an approved Minor program or pre-approved set of courses.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Free Electives:</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">1-2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;"><b>Total Degree Requirements:</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 2px;">60</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Liberal Studies:</b> As outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog with the following specifications/exceptions:	39-40	<b>Fine Arts</b>	3cr	<b>Dimensions of Wellness/ROTC</b>	3cr	<b>Humanities</b>	9cr	<b>Learning Skills:</b> ENGL 101 or higher, MATH 101 or higher	6cr	<b>Natural Science</b>	7-8cr	<b>Social Science:</b> Including 3cr Global Multicultural Awareness	6cr	<b>Liberal Studies Electives</b>	6cr	<b>Concentration:</b>	18	Completion of an approved Minor program or pre-approved set of courses.		<b>Free Electives:</b>	1-2	<b>Total Degree Requirements:</b>	60
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<b>(G) Supporting Documents*</b>	Please attach a document with a summary of all proposals.				
	<table style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><b>File</b></td> <td style="padding: 2px 10px;"><b>Modified</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="border-top: 1px solid black; height: 10px;"></td> </tr> </table>	<b>File</b>	<b>Modified</b>		
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**For Deans Review**

Are Resources Available/Sufficient for this Course?

Is the Proposal Congruent with the College Mission?

Has the Proposer Attempted to Resolve Potential Conflicts with Other Academic Units?

Comments:

Please scroll to the top and click the Page Status if you are ready to take action on the workflow.  
Please submit an ihelp if you have any questions <http://ihelp.iup.edu>